

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/697,738

Examiner

Hien D. Vu

Applicant(s)

COPPER ET AL.

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**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the communication on 2/15/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4-7,9-12,14-16,19-21 and 24.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

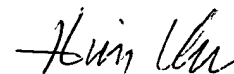
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 2/16/06.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.



**HIEN VU**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Dean Small on 2/15/06.

The application has been amended as follows:

#### IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An electrical contact comprising:

a conductor comprising a series of arch-shaped elements that are continuously formed with one another and extend along a centerline, wherein said arch-shaped elements are aligned to transverse said centerline and are pitched at an acute angle with respect to said centerline, said arch-shaped elements each having a pair of opposed leg portions joined by a bridge portion, each said bridge portion being configured to engage a mating contact along a direction traversing said centerline, wherein said leg portions of adjacent said arch-shaped elements are straight and are joined to one another on alternating sides of said arch-shaped elements, wherein said bridge portions are bent in an arch shape, wherein said arch-shaped elements and said centerline are arranged in a linear geometry.

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) ~~The contact of claim 1,~~ An electrical contact comprising:

a conductor comprising a series of arch-shaped elements that are continuously formed with one another and extend along a centerline, wherein said arch-shaped elements are aligned to transverse said centerline and are pitched at an acute angle with respect to said centerline, said arch-shaped elements each having a pair of opposed leg portions joined by a bridge portion, each said bridge portion being configured to engage a mating contact along a direction traversing said centerline, wherein each said pair of opposed leg portions are arranged in a plane, adjacent said arch-shaped elements being arranged in parallel said planes, said leg portions of adjacent said arch-shaped elements being joined to one another on alternating sides of said arch-shaped elements.

5. (previously presented) The contact of claim 1, wherein each said leg portions are provided along opposite sides of the contact, and wherein said leg portions of adjacent arch-shaped elements are joined to one another at linking portions, all of said leg portions being slanted in a common direction with respect to said centerline, the linking portions flexing to permit said arch-shaped elements to slant with respect to said centerline when engaging a mating contact.

6. (currently amended) The contact of claim 1, wherein said leg portions of adjacent said arch-shaped elements ~~are straight and~~ are joined to one another on alternating sides of said arch-shaped elements.

7. (currently amended) ~~The contact of claim 1,~~ An electrical contact comprising:

a conductor comprising a series of arch-shaped elements that are continuously formed with one another and extend along a centerline, wherein said arch-shaped elements are aligned to transverse said centerline and are pitched at an acute angle with respect to said centerline, said arch-shaped elements each having a pair of opposed leg portions joined by a bridge portion, each said bridge portion being configured to engage a mating contact along a direction traversing said centerline,

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wherein said leg portions of adjacent said arch-shaped elements are straight and are joined to one another on alternating sides of said arch-shaped elements, wherein said bridge portions are bent in an arch shape, wherein said arch-shaped elements and said centerline are arranged in a circular geometry about a center point.

8. (cancelled)

9. (currently amended) The contact of claim 4\_7, wherein said conductor includes latch and tab members at opposite ends thereof, said latch member is configured to be joined to said tab member.

10. (currently amended) The contact of claim 1, wherein said leg portions in each said pair of opposed leg portions ~~are straight and~~ are separated to provide an open bottom.

11. (currently amended) The contact of claim 4\_7, wherein ~~said arch-shaped elements and said centerline are arranged in a circular geometry about a center point,~~ said centerline ~~defining~~ defines a reference diameter about said center point, said arch-shaped elements being oriented at an acute angle with respect to radial lines extending outward from said center point, and wherein said arch-shaped elements lean when compressed, increasing said acute angle.

12. (previously presented) An electrical connector comprising:

a body having a mating face; and

a contact held in said body proximate said mating face, said contact comprising a conductor folded into a series of arch-shaped elements that are formed continuous with one another and extend along a centerline, wherein said arch-shaped elements are oriented at an acute angle with respect to said centerline, wherein each said arch-shaped element has a pair of opposed leg portions joined by a curved bridge portion, said leg portions of adjacent arch-shaped elements being arranged in parallel planes and being joined to one another on alternative sides of said arch-shaped

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elements by linking portions the bridge portions being engaged by a mating contact and the linking portions flexing.

13. (canceled)

14. (original) The electrical connector of claim 12, wherein said body is conductive and is disposed within an insulated housing.

15. (previously presented) The electrical connector of claim 12, wherein each said arch-shaped element includes an open bottom located opposite the bridge portion across said centerline.

16. (previously presented) The electrical connector of claim 12, wherein said leg portions are located on opposite sides of the centerline and are straight.

17. (canceled)

18. (cancelled)

19. (original) The electrical connector of claim 12, wherein said conductor includes opposite ends, said contact being held in said body with said ends located remote from one another.

20. (previously presented) The electrical connector of claim 12, wherein each said arch-shaped element includes an open bottom opening outward from said bridge portion.

21. (previously presented) The electrical connector of claim 12, wherein said arch-shaped elements are arranged in said parallel planes that are oriented at said acute angle to said centerline.

22. (cancelled)

23. (cancelled)

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24. (previously presented) An electrical contact, comprising:

a series of arch-shaped elements arranged adjacent one another along a centerline, each said arch-shaped element includes a pair of straight leg portions and a bridge portion integrally formed with said leg portions and arranged in a plane, said leg portions being positioned on opposite sides of said centerline, adjacent said arch-shaped elements being arranged in parallel planes and joined continuous with one another through linking portions that are integrally formed with said leg portions of adjacent arch-shaped elements on alternating sides of said arch-shaped elements, said arch-shaped elements being oriented at an acute angle with respect to said centerline.

Claims 25 - 39 (cancelled)

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hien D. Vu whose telephone number is 571-272-2016.

The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5.



HIEN VU  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

HV  
2/16/06